The Nature of Research

Content

- Definition of "research"
- Fundamental characteristics of research.
- 3. Types of research.
- 4. Stages of scientific research.

The purpose:

to clarify the main features of research and to specify its types and stages

Research is something that people undertake in order to find out things in a systematic way, thereby increasing their knowledge.

'Systematic' suggests that research is based on logical relationships and not just beliefs. As part of this, your research will involve an explanation of the methods used to collect data, will argue why the results obtained are meaningful, and will explain any limitations that are associated with them.

'To find out things' suggests that there is a multiplicity of possible purposes for your research. These may include describing, explaining, understanding, criticizing and analyzing. However, it also suggests that you have a clear purpose.

"

Characteristics of research

- data are collected systematically;
- data are interpreted systematically;

• there is a clear purpose: to find things out.

The ways in which the term is used wrongly are:

just collecting facts or information
with no clear purpose;
reordering facts or information
without interpretation;
as a term to get your product or idea

noticed and respected.

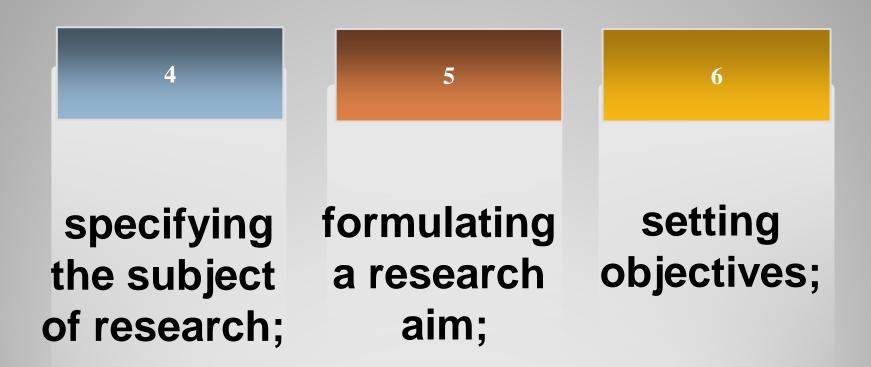
Types of researches

Pure research is original investigation undertaken to gain new scientific or technical knowledge and understanding, but without any specific applications.

Applied research is original investigation undertaken to gain new scientific or technical knowledge with a specific practical aim or objective.

Basic research	Applied research
Purpose:	Purpose:
to expand knowledge of	to improve understanding of a
processes	particular problem
Findings	Findings
universal principles relating	solution to problem, new
to the process and its	knowledge limited to a problem
relationship to outcomes	
Significance	Significance
of theoretical relevance and	of practical relevance and value to
value to society in general	particular organizations
Context:	Context:
undertaken by people based	undertaken by people based in a
in universities;	variety of settings including
choice of topic and	organizations and universities;
objectives determined by	objectives negotiated with
the researcher; flexible time	originator; tight time scale.
scale.	





8

developing research methods;

7

collecting, describing, processing, conclusions; interpreting research data;

9



Thank you for attention!